

**Introduced by Senator Runner**

February 24, 2006

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An act to add Division 113 (commencing with Section 130600) to the Health and Safety Code, relating to pharmacy assistance, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

SB 1691, as introduced, Runner. California State Pharmacy Assistance Program.

Under existing law, the State Department of Health Services administers the Medi-Cal program, and is authorized, among other things, to enter into contracts with certain drug manufacturers. Under existing law, the department is entitled to drug rebates in accordance with certain conditions, and drug manufactures are required to calculate and pay interest on late or unpaid rebates.

This bill would establish the California State Pharmacy Assistance Program within the department to provide discount prescription drugs for low-income uninsured Californians.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Division 113 (commencing with Section
- 2 130600) is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:

1           DIVISION 113. CALIFORNIA STATE PHARMACY  
2                           ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

3  
4       130600. This division shall be known, and may be cited, as  
5 the California State Pharmacy Assistance Program or Cal R.

6       130602. There is hereby established in the State Department  
7 of Health Services the California State Pharmacy Assistance  
8 Program or Cal R to provide discount prescription drugs for  
9 low-income uninsured citizens of the state.

10      SEC. 2. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the  
11 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety  
12 within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go  
13 into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

14      In order to provide access to necessary prescription drugs for  
15 thousands of low-income Californians unable to purchase them  
16 due to lack of financial resources or adequate prescription drug  
17 coverage, it is necessary that this act take effect immediately.